

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: MIZUNO et al

Serial No.:

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For: Storage System And Method For Backup

Art Unit:

Examiner:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop: Patent Applications

Commissioner For Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

February 20, 2004

Sir:

The following amendments and remarks are respectfully requested in connection with the above-identified application as listed below and as set forth on the following pages:

A substitute specification along with a marked-up copy of the original specification is attached;

Amendments to the Claims;

Amendments to the Abstract;

Remarks are included following the amendments.